DARK HORSE COMICS

#1 OF 5

HELLBOY™ in LOVE

GOBLIN NIGHT

PART 1 of 2

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HELLBOY™ in LOVE

HELLBOY HAS BEEN ASSIGNED TO PATROL A TRAIN ROUTE WHERE GOBLINS HAVE BEEN STEALING FROM PASSENGERS. THEIR LATEST VICTIM, ANASTACIA, IS A RESEARCHER AND ARCHAEOLOGIST TRANSPORTING VALUABLE ARTIFACTS TO A MUSEUM, AND SHE'S NOT GOING TO LET THEM GO WITHOUT A FIGHT! RATHER THAN STAY BEHIND, SHE TEAMS UP WITH HELLBOY TO CHASE THE LIGHT-FINGERED FEY THROUGH THE BRITISH COUNTRYSIDE AND INTO . . . A LOCAL PUNK SHOW?

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Printed in Canada.

JUNE 27TH, 1979.

THE NORTH OF ENGLAND.

CHOOOGA CHOOOGA CHOOOGA CHOOOGA

CLICKCLACKCLICKCLACKCLICKCLACK

TUNK TUNK TUNK

CLICKCLACKCLICKCLACKCLICKCLACK

KRRRAASSHHH

AAAIEEE!

BLOODY HELL!

OH MY GOD!

NOOOO! LEAVE US ALONE!

YOU'RE IN MY WAY!

WHERE IS IT?

HERE! RIGHT HERE! ARE YOU **BLIND?**

WHERE IS **SHE?**

NO! THE CASE MUST BE OURS!

RIGHT, I THINK I'VE HEARD ENOUGH!

YOU WANT *THIS* CASE?

KRUNCH

LITTLE BASTARDS. MY WHOLE CAREER IS RIDING ON WHAT'S IN THIS CASE. NEXT ONE TRIES TO LAY A HAND ON IT GETS HIS SKULL KICKED IN!

MAYHAP, LADY, BUT WHAT OF THE ONE AFTER THAT?

THERE ARE MANY OF US...

"...AND JUST THE ONE OF YOU."

AAAIIEEEE!

MONSTERS!

SEEMS LIKE YOUR SORT OF THING, WOULDN'T YOU SAY?

CRAP.

NO! NO-NO-NO-NO...

TOO MANY OF US! HE TOLD YOU!

THUMPP

AAGGHH!

WHAT IN THE--

SORRY I'M LATE. I WAS TAKING A NAP.

I WAS KIND OF SUPPOSED TO BE WATCHING OUT FOR THESE GUYS. YOUR BOSSES AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM CALLED IN A FAVOR WITH THE B.P.R.D. APPARENTLY THEY'VE BEEN STEALING ALL KINDS OF--

WELL, THERE THEY GO!

IF YOU WANT TO HELP, GET THAT BLOODY CASE!

ON IT.

YYAAAHHH!

NO YOU DON'T!

AAAGGHHH!

GET READY! WE'RE ALMOST THERE!

DAMN! QUICK LITTLE MONKEYS.

LISTEN, BOYS! YOU CAN DO ALL THE ACROBATICS YOU WANT...

...NO WAY AM I LETTING YOU GET AWAY WITH THAT STUFF.

OH... HULLO...

FASTER, YOU IDIOTS!

BACK OFF, YA BIG RED BASTARD!

YOU'VE GOTTA BE KIDDING!

THWAKK

AAAAAAIIEEEE!!

KRUNCH

THAT'S THE IDEA!

SHE'S FIERCE. I DIDN'T EXPECT HER TO BE SO VIOLENT. DID **YOU** EXPECT HER TO BE SO VIOLENT?

GIVE ME THAT CASE!

OFF YOU GO!

AAAAHHH, CHRIST NO! HELLBOY! HELP ME!

THEY'RE JUST THINGS, LADY. PRETTY THINGS. VALUABLES...OR THIEVES LIKE US WOULDN'T WANT 'EM. BUT NOT WORTH DYING FOR.

SON OF A--

HELLBOY, PLEASE!

YOU KNOW YOU COULD'VE STAYED INSIDE THE TRAIN?

I'M... UNNGHH...I'M NOT LETTING THAT CASE OUT OF MY SIGHT!

NOW, IF YOU WOULDN'T MIND?

IF YOU'D STAYED PUT--

I DON'T "STAY PUT." THAT CASE IS MY RESPONSIBILITY.

NOW, IF YOU'LL PUT ME DOWN, IT MAY NOT BE TOO LATE. ESPECIALLY IF YOU STAY OUT OF MY WAY.

ME? STAY OUT OF ***YOUR*** WAY?

I'M TRYING TO SAVE ***YOUR*** STUFF!

OH? AND HOW IS ***THAT*** GOING?

GET BACK HERE! YOU THINK YOU'RE GETTING AWAY LIKE THAT? YOU THINK I WON'T JUMP OFF THE...

THIS IS GONNA HURT.

THUD THUD THUD

UHNFF... OOOFFF...

SHOWOFF.

OW.

CLICK CLICK CLICK CLACK CLACK CLACK

ALLEZ-
OOP!

RIGHT, LET'S MOVE!

SHOWOFF.

YOU'RE NOT WHAT I EXPECTED, DR. BRANSFIELD.

I WASN'T EXPECTING *YOU* AT ALL.

HEY, IT'S NOT A RACE BETWEEN YOU AND ME, HANDSOME.

WE'RE AFTER THE GOBLINS, REMEMBER?

WOOF WOOF WOOF WOOF

WELL, THAT'S NEW. GOBLINS ARE SNEAKY LITTLE SUCKERS, BUT I'VE NEVER SEEN ONE DRIVE A TRUCK.

WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU TWO, LETTIN' THEM STEAL THE LORRY? HOW'RE YOU MEANT TO DO YOUR JOB WITHOUT IT?

WOOF WOOF

WELL, NOW IT ALL COMES CLEAR...

THE TRUCK. DID YOU SEE--

YOU'RE THAT HELLBOY, AIN'T YA? THE LAD WHAT FIGHTS MONSTERS AND THINGS?

YES, SIR. THAT'S ME. BUT I REALLY NEED TO--

LITTLE BUGGERS STOLE MY TRUCK. GET ON AFTER 'EM. JUST PROMISE YOU'LL BRING 'EM BACK--CAR AND TRUCK BOTH, I MEAN. NOT THE GOBLINS. THEM YOU CAN TOSS OFF A CLIFF IF YOU FIND ONE.

YEAH. I THINK WE CAN MANAGE--

WE PROMISE. CAR AND TRUCK BOTH...

"...AND THANKS SO MUCH!"

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU WERE THINKING BACK THERE, PROMISING WE'D GET HIS TRUCK BACK.

NEVER SAID WE'D BRING HIS TRUCK BACK IN ***ONE PIECE,*** OR THE CAR FOR THAT MATTER. SPEAKING OF WHICH, YOU DRIVE LIKE MY GRAN! STEP ON IT, WOULD YOU?

THIS ISN'T EXACTLY A RACE CAR, LADY. ANYWAY, I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE SO HAPPY ABOUT.

SORRY, GRUMPY. THIS MAY BE ALL IN A DAY'S WORK FOR YOU, BUT I'VE NEVER MET A GOBLIN BEFORE. NEVER REALLY BELIEVED THEY EXISTED!

WASN'T QUITE SURE ABOUT ***YOU,*** EITHER.

WELL, HERE I AM. BIG AS LIFE.

YES, AND MUCH BETTER LOOKING IN PERSON.

YOU MUST'VE HIT YOUR HEAD JUMPING OFF THAT TRAIN.

LOOK OUT!

GAHHH!

BAAA

VVVRRRMMMMM

MY GOD!

BAAAA

BAAAA

WHO TAUGHT YOU TO DRIVE?

GIVE ME A BREAK...

I KNOW HOW TO DRIVE. BUT IT'S NOT LIKE I SPEND A LOTTA TIME BEHIND THE WHEEL.

WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY SOMETHING BEFORE?

GOD... PULL OVER, I'LL DRIVE!

I DON'T THINK SO.

IF A GOBLIN CAN DRIVE, I CAN SURE AS HELL DRIVE.

SUIT YOURSELF. JUST KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR MORE SHEEP.

YOU'RE SOMETHING ELSE, LADY.

I'M GLAD YOU'VE NOTICED.

I'M GLAD YOU SEEM TO BE HAVING FUN, BUT CAN WE JUST FOCUS? KEEP IT PROFESSIONAL.

BY ALL MEANS. BUT I DO LOOK FORWARD TO FINDING OUT WHAT YOU'RE LIKE WHEN YOU'RE BEING ***UN***PROFESSIONAL.

I'LL MAKE YOU A DEAL. IF YOU'LL TRY TO DRIVE A BIT FASTER, I'LL TELL YOU WHY THESE PARTICULAR ARTIFACTS ARE SO IMPORTANT TO ME.

DEAL...

20

"...BUT IF WE CRASH, IT'S YOUR FAULT."

I'VE WAGERED MY CAREER ON A THEORY...A RATHER MAGNIFICENT THEORY THAT MY EMPLOYERS ROUTINELY DISMISS. HAVE YOU EVER HEARD OF THE SUAREN ARTEA?

MAYBE? IDIOTS IN ROBES, LOTS OF CHANTING AND BLOOD?

"THE ORIGINAL IDIOTS IN ROBES, ACTUALLY. NO DOUBT YOU'VE ENCOUNTERED SOME POOR IMITATIONS IN YOUR WORK, BUT THE SUAREN ARTEA ARE THE ROOT OF IT ALL.

"THE TROUBLE IS, I CAN'T GET ANYONE TO FINANCE MY RESEARCH WITHOUT EVIDENCE, AND I CAN'T GET THAT EVIDENCE WITHOUT SOMEONE TO SPONSOR MY RESEARCH. CATCH-22.

"TRANSLATED FROM THE ORIGINAL BASQUE, THE PHRASE SUAREN ARTEA MEANS 'THE ART OF FIRE'...BUT I FIRST RAN ACROSS HINTS OF THEIR EXISTENCE IN AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL DIG IN ICELAND...

"WE FOUND INTACT REMAINS OF A WITCH AND HER CHAMBERS...AND WRITINGS IN BASQUE, PERSIAN, AND EGYPTIAN, LANGUAGES SHE COULD NOT HAVE KNOWN IN 1100 B.C."

YEAH. NOT A LOT OF OCEAN TRAVEL IN THOSE DAYS, EXCEPT IN AUSTRONESIA.

DON'T LOOK AT ME LIKE THAT. I NEVER LIKED STUDYING, BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN I DIDN'T LEARN A FEW THINGS.

WELL, THE POINT IS THAT YOU'RE RIGHT. I BELIEVE THE SUAREN ARTEA WERE A GLOBAL SOCIETY OF MAGICIANS, OCCULTISTS, AND ALCHEMISTS--

WHO WERE IN COMMUNICATION WITH EACH OTHER AND SHARING MAGICAL SECRETS AT A TIME WHEN TRAVEL WAS A PRETTY RARE THING AND CIVILIZATION HAD BARELY STARTED TO...WELL, TO--

CROSS-POLLINATE.

RIGHT. NO WONDER YOUR BOSSES ARE SKEPTICAL.

NOT JUST THEM. EVERY RESPECTABLE VOICE IN MY FIELD. BUT I KNOW THIS IS REAL.

AND YOU THINK THESE ARTIFACTS HAVE SOME KIND OF PROOF?

I THINK THE INSCRIPTIONS ON THEM MIGHT HOLD THE KEY TO UNLOCKING IT ALL. AND I THINK THAT'S WHY THE GOBLINS STOLE THEM IN THE FIRST PLACE. I DON'T THINK IT'S JUST ANOTHER HEIST FOR THEM.

THAT'S KIND OF A STRETCH, DON'T YOU THINK? GOBLINS ARE THIEVES. THEY'LL STEAL ANYTHING. THIS ONE TIME--

HELLBOY, STOP THE CAR!

WATCH YOUR BACK.

NOTHING.

WE'LL SEE.

WHAT'S THAT?

THIS 16TH CENTURY WARLOCK, ZAZA KATSIKIS, SEDUCED A WHOLE GANG OF WITCHES AND WAS DOING THIS RITUAL THAT WAS SUPPOSED TO STEAL ALL THEIR POWER.

IN THE MIDDLE OF ABSORBING THEIR MAGIC, ZAZA GETS STRUCK BY LIGHTNING. INCINERATED.

B.P.R.D. FIGURED OUT HIS ASHES WERE STILL CHARGED BY THE RITUAL. TOSS 'EM IN THE BREEZE AND THEY DRIFT TOWARD MAGIC. THE PROFESSOR SWEARS BY THIS STUFF, BUT I'VE NEVER ACTUALLY TRIED IT.

QUITE A STORY. BUT I HAVE A FEELING WE DIDN'T NEED THE DEAD MAN'S ASHES AFTER ALL.

GREAT. FANTASTIC.

STUFF DOES SEEM TO WORK, THOUGH. COLD COMFORT, I KNOW.

WHAT IS THIS PLACE?

LOCKED.

THUNK

THE GOBLINS COULDN'T USE THE FRONT DOOR...

RON WATTS PRESENTS
U.S. TANKS
AND the Classifieds
PLUS THE DOOMED
7PM JUNE 27 ALL AGES

...BUT WE CAN.

TWO, PLEASE.

SHOW'S ALREADY STARTED.

WE'RE HERE FOR THE HEADLINER.

ALL RIGHT, MATE? SOME TROUBLE BREWING WE OUGHTA KNOW ABOUT?

COME ON!

NOT QUITE SURE, CONSTABLE...

...BUT I THINK WE'RE ABOUT TO FIND OUT.

WHAT A CIRCUS.

NOT A PUNK FAN?

I KEEP AN OPEN MIND. I'LL SAY THIS, THOUGH...

PLACE LIKE THIS, JUST ABOUT ANYONE CAN BLEND IN.

YEAH, BUT WHY?

WHAT ARE THEY DOING HERE? AND WHERE'S MY CASE?

DON'T LOOK NOW...

...BUT I THINK YOUR ANSWERS ARE RIGHT OVER THERE.

HEY, JUNIOR! YOU'VE GOT SOMETHING THAT DOESN'T BELONG TO YOU!

AWW... CRAP.

TO BE CONCLUDED

SON OF ULTRON

"THIS FAN... THIS MONSTER!"